

REMARKS

Claims 1-41 have been cancelled pursuant to the requirement for restriction and without prejudice. Claims 43-50 have been maintained so that they can be regrouped as discussed below. New claims 51-55 have been added. The requested election of claim group has been made, and two new claim groups have proposed.

In the event that the Examiner agrees with the formation of the new claim groups, claim Group A is hereby elected. If the Examiner does not so agree, claim Group V is hereby elected. It is therefore believed that this application is in condition for examination on the merits.

The Amendments

The specification at page 49, the first paragraph of Example 7 has been amended to correct an obvious error in which grams was replaced by cubic centimeters. Enclosed Exhibit I is a page from the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics published by the Chemical Rubber Co. that lists the molecular weight for sodium meta-periodate as 213.92 and the specific gravity of the salt as 3.86 grams/cubic centimeter (ml). If 800 ml were used, that material would weigh 3088 grams  $[(3.86 \text{ g/ml}) \times (800 \text{ ml})]$ . That weight was said to be dissolved into 30 liters of alumina. Thus, the concentration would be 3088 g/30 L, or 102.93 g/L, which corresponds to a molarity of about 0.48. There is no support elsewhere in the application for that molarity. On the other hand, if the amended value of 800 grams were used, and those 800 g were homogeneously dispersed in the same 30 L of alumina, the concentration of meta-periodate in the alumina would be 800 g/30 L or 26.67 g/L, or  $[(26.67 \text{ g}/213.92 \text{ g/m})/\text{L}]$

0.125 molar, as value about in the middle of the range of molarities described through out the application and claims, such as claim 42 that recites a concentration of "about 0.1 to about 0.15 molar". It is thus seen that this amendment adds no new matter and simply corrects an obvious error.

The spelling of "meta-periodate" was also corrected in that same paragraph to correspond to that used in the remainder of the application and claims. See, for example the first two lines of page 14 and claim 42.


Claims 51-55 have been added. These claims are directed to an apparatus described at least in Examples 10-12. New matter has therefore not been added with these claims.

An Information Disclosure Statement, art and Form PTO-1449 were filed previously.

A fee for the added independent claim (51) and claims in addition to those already paid for that are in excess of twenty was enclosed. No further fee or petition is believed to be necessary. However, should any further fee be needed, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0920, and deem this paper to be the required petition. This paper is being filed in duplicate.

The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned should any questions arise that can be dealt with over the phone to expedite this prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Edward P. Gamson, Reg. No. 29,381

Serial No. 10/023,022

-11-

Enclosures  
Exhibit I

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.  
120 South Riverside Plaza, 22nd Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Phone (312) 655-1500  
Fax No. (312) 655-1501

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Election, in duplicate, along with the Petition and Fee, Added Claims fee and Exhibit I are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on May 24, 2004.



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Edward P. Gamson

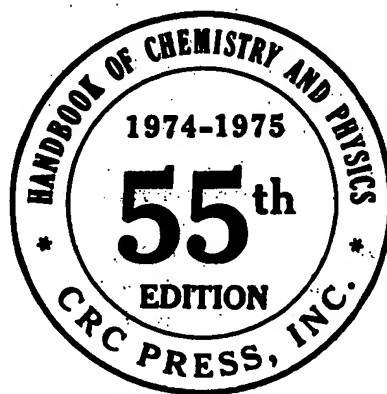
EXHIBIT I

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



# Handbook OF Chemistry and Physics

A Ready-Reference Book of Chemical and Physical Data



EDITOR

ROBERT C. WEAST, Ph.D.

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*Formerly Professor of Chemistry at Case Institute of Technology*

In collaboration with a large number of professional chemists and physicists whose assistance is acknowledged in the list of general collaborators and in connection with the particular tables or sections involved.

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**PHYSICAL CONSTANTS OF INORGANIC COMPOUNDS (Continued)**

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